

should be understood, however, that computer-readable storage mediums and media and data storage media do not include connections, carrier waves, signals, or other transient media, but are instead directed to non-transient, tangible storage media. Disk and disc, as used herein, includes compact disc (CD), laser disc, optical disc, digital versatile disc (DVD), floppy disk and Blu-ray disc, where disks usually reproduce data magnetically, while discs reproduce data optically with lasers. Combinations of the above should also be included within the scope of computer-readable medium.

Instructions may be executed by one or more processors, such as one or more digital signal processors (DSPs), general purpose microprocessors, application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), field programmable logic arrays (FPGAs), or other equivalent integrated or discrete logic circuitry. Accordingly, the term “processor,” as used herein may refer to any of the foregoing structure or any other structure suitable for implementation of the techniques described herein. In addition, in some aspects, the functionality described herein may be provided within dedicated hardware and/or software modules. Also, the techniques could be fully implemented in one or more circuits or logic elements.

The techniques of this disclosure may be implemented in a wide variety of devices or apparatuses, including a wireless handset, an integrated circuit (IC) or a set of ICs (e.g., a chip set). Various components, modules, or units are described in this disclosure to emphasize functional aspects of devices configured to perform the disclosed techniques, but do not necessarily require realization by different hardware units. Rather, as described above, various units may be combined in a hardware unit or provided by a collection of interoperative hardware units, including one or more processors as described above, in conjunction with suitable software and/or firmware.

Various embodiments have been described. These and other embodiments are within the scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

inferring, by a computing system, based on information associated with a user of a computing device, that the user will need to complete a trip by traveling from a future location so as to arrive at a future destination by a future time;

selecting, by the computing system, a transportation service that the user can use to complete the trip, wherein selecting the transportation service comprises selecting the transportation service from a plurality of available transportation services, and wherein each of the available transportation services are different on-demand transportation services including a plurality of associated vehicles;

determining, by the computing system, a predicted time to request a vehicle of the plurality of vehicles associated with the selected transportation service for completing the trip, wherein:

a request of the vehicle sent at the predicted time has a degree of likelihood that satisfies a likelihood threshold, wherein the degree of likelihood is a likelihood of causing the vehicle to arrive at the future location by a final departure time; and

the final departure time is a latest time at which the user is predicted to need to begin traveling from the future location to complete the trip and arrive at the future destination by the future time;

responsive to determining that a current time is within a threshold amount of time of the predicted time to request the vehicle associated with the selected transportation service;

automatically sending, by the computing system, to the computing device, a request confirming that the user intends to take the trip, wherein the request confirming that the user intends to take the trip causes the computing device to render a user interface prompting the user to confirm that the user intends to take the trip, and wherein the user interface includes an indication of the future destination and the future time, and

receiving, by the computing system, from the computing device and responsive to sending the request confirming that the user intends to take the trip, an acknowledgement indicating the user intends to take the trip, wherein receiving the acknowledgment indicating that the user intends to take the trip comprises: receiving user input, via the user interface of the computing device, the user input confirming that the user intends to take to trip, and receiving location information that is generated by the computing device and that indicates the computing device is within a threshold distance of the future location at the current time;

responsive to receiving, from the computing device, both the user input confirming that the user intends to take the trip and the location information indicating that the computing device is within the threshold distance of the future location at the current time:

automatically sending, by the computing system, to a reservation system associated with the selected transportation service, a reservation request for the vehicle associated with the selected transportation service for completing the trip, wherein the reservation request causes the reservation system to dispatch the vehicle, associated with the selected transportation service, to the future location; and

responsive to receiving, from the reservation system, an acknowledgement indicating the reservation request can be satisfied, sending, by the computing system, to the computing device, information for notifying the user that the vehicle associated with the selected transportation service is scheduled to arrive at the future location by the final departure time.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the predicted time to request the vehicle comprises:

determining, by the computing system, an estimated trip duration associated with the transportation service for completing the trip;

determining, by the computing system, based on the estimated trip duration, the final departure time as being the latest time at which the user is predicted to need to begin traveling from the future location to complete the trip and arrive at the future destination by the future time;

determining, by the computing system, based on the final departure time, an estimated booking delay, after sending the reservation request, before the vehicle is predicted to arrive at the future location; and

determining, by the computing system, the predicted time as being earlier than the final departure time by at least the estimated booking delay.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the predicted time to request the vehicle comprises: